



# PRESS RELEASE

USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63)  
Public Affairs Office  
FPO AP 96634-2770

E-mail: [pao@kitty-hawk.navy.mil](mailto:pao@kitty-hawk.navy.mil)  
Web: [www.kittyhawk.navy.mil](http://www.kittyhawk.navy.mil)



---

For Immediate Release  
Release: 06-071

August 15, 2006

## **Sailors lend a helping hand to Australian community**

By Mass Communication Specialist 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Randy Lane

**FREMANTLE, Australia**— When USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), USS Cowpens (CG 63) and USS Russell (DDG 59) pulled into Fremantle, Australia, Aug. 10, about 80 Sailors from Kitty Hawk and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5 spent their liberty helping out with eight community service projects.

On one of the projects, Sailors helped plant seedling trees in a local Perth park.

“I just really enjoyed working outdoors,” said Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Christopher Jones, one of Kitty Hawk’s volunteers. “Improving the environment is a lasting gift I can give to our host community. It’d be nice to come back in 10 years and see big trees where I planted seeds.”

Other projects Sailors participated in while visiting Australia included refurbishing St. Vincent de Paul Care Center for the mentally disabled and homeless, cleaning up the grounds of the Richmond Fellowship Center of Western Australia, painting the Valued Independent People Inc. Center and head office, and various grounds work at the Perth Hebrew Congregation Synagogue.

In addition to Kitty Hawk and CVW-5, 41 Sailors from Kitty Hawk's escort ships, Cowpens and Russell, did their own service projects.

Volunteers from Cowpens spread mulch on a hillside in Allen Park with Conservation Volunteers of Australia, Aug. 11. The mulch helped protect recently-planted native species. On Aug. 12, Sailors from the Cowpens built and painted 100 yards of fencing at the Native Animal Rehabilitation Center.

"My favorite part of the day was when I got to hold a baby kangaroo and lamb," said Boatswain's Mate 1<sup>st</sup> Class (SW) Teresita Cutler, who helped install the fencing. "It was rewarding to hold the animals we were building the fence for, and it was amazing how much the place had changed in such a short period of time."

Sailors from Russell also did their part. They visited the Princess Margaret Hospital in Subiaco, Australia, Aug. 11, delivering stickers, patches and ball caps to patients.

On Aug. 13, they helped with landscape work at the Westcare Accommodation Village, a center that provides food and housing for people with disabilities. After finishing their work, the facility hosted a barbecue for the volunteers.

"We dug up the grass on the garden next to the main entrance, planted various flowers and laid down fresh dirt," said Ensign Theresa Donnelly, a participant in the Westcare Village Project.

"After the barbecue, one of our Sailors played guitar and some of the residents sang along."

“The various event organizers provided glowing reports on the Sailors who participated,” said Lisa Marino, the public diplomacy assistant to the U.S. Consulate General in Perth. “They were full of praise for [the volunteers’] wonderful contribution to the Australian community.”

The Kitty Hawk Strike Group is the largest carrier strike group in the Navy and is composed of the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, Carrier Air Wing 5, the guided-missile cruisers USS Chancellorsville (CG 62) and USS Cowpens, and Destroyer Squadron 15.

To find more news about the Kitty Hawk Strike Group, visit the Navy NewsStand at [www.news.navy.mil/local/cv63/](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/cv63/).